

KPS CONSULTING

“Building an Access Bridge in Technology and Telecommunications”

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October 15, 2003

By electronic filing:

Marlene Dortch

Secretary

Federal Communications Commission

445 12th Street, SW

Washington, DC 20554

Re: **Ex Parte Presentation**

CC Docket No. 98-67, CG Docket No. 03-123

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On October 14, 2003, Ben Soukup, Mark Seeger, Ann Marie Mickelson, Pat Reiter, Mark Seeger, and the undersigned, on behalf of Communication Service for the Deaf, Inc. (CSD), met with Jessica Rosenworcel of the Office of Commissioner Michael Copps to discuss the following issues:

Legal Interpreting Petition – CSD discussed the petition that it filed on June 12, 2003, in which it had urged the FCC to grant a waiver of the obligation to handle video relay service (VRS) calls involving legal proceedings. CSD explained that consumers need the legal protections guaranteed by state statutes that require credentialing of interpreters for these types of interpreting assignments. CSD expressed concerns that handling these calls through VRS could compromise the rights of deaf consumers.

VRS Rate – CSD discussed the impact of CGB's Order of June 30, 2003, which cut the rate for VRS to an interim \$7.75 per minute. CSD discussed and distributed the attached fact sheet documenting the effects that this Order has had on users, interpreters, and VRS providers.

Sincerely,

Karen Peltz Strauss

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Attorney for CSD